

W 9 J P

A M A - C H E W E R

Monthly Paper Of The Indianapolis Radio Club, Inc.

November 10, 1943

The editor slid through September and October without preparing makeup for Amachewer. Thus if your file shows August 20, 1943 as your last issue that is correct so just pitch the bricks this way. If you have been saving Amachewer it makes quite an interesting history of club since Don Brewer, then secretary, began its publication as the Scandal Sheet on March 1st, 1940. That was at the time of the ARRL Central Division Convention. Wern't those hectic days of planning, arranging, trying this and that? At that time our advertising carried the thought that perhaps this, the convention, might be the last for some time. That prophetic thought has now come to pass because soon after it was uttered and used as a theme for the convention advertising we as a nation were plunged into war. We wonder if there is anyone among us who can foresee what the future will bring us, as a nation, as amateurs, and in our own club.

WERS ACTIVITY

On Sunday, September 26th, the WERS participated in the Bond Drive Sales Campaign. On that date all the Zone stations were on the air with most of the Zone stations having two and a few having three mobile units in operation. The tie up came about in this manner.

The local commercial radio stations promoted the sale of the bonds urging the public to buy and telling that a radio car would deliver the bond. When John Q. Public would call the station stating his desire to buy a bond the word was sent to the Control Center. At Control Center the information as to name, address, and amount of the bond desired was put into the form of a message; this was in turn sent to the Zone station closest to that address. The Zone station in turn contacted his mobile unit. Riding with the mobile unit was a Civilian Defense Officer and together with the mobile operator they would deliver and collect for the bond. Approximately \$20,000 in bonds were sold in this way. Thus a useful aid to the war effort and practical operation for the system was accomplished.

During the above drive the receiver at Control Center gave trouble and WKFZ'7 set up his receiver to keep Control Center on the air. This no doubt could happen during an emergency and the manner in which it was taken care of during the above drive just shows how the amateur can be depended upon to find a way.

Auxiliary operators were given a chance to do their bit during the time so many of the units were in operation. We still need more operators so if you know of any wanting to operate tell them to come on down.

Confusion still exists on getting and keeping the Zone stations on their proper frequency. Practice on this item of operation should clear up this situation. Some of the boys are talking of building superhets so that the Zone and Control stations can monitor the two frequencies assigned to them.

A procedure class using a PA was used at the club rooms on a Wednesday and Friday night to get practice in handling messages. It was agreed that the simulated practice obtained by the use of the PA system was very beneficial in amending operating procedure.

Lynn Hull at Beech Grove now has the system there set up to tie up with the City net at such time as he gets the modification necessary for such operation.

TESTS

A program committee for WERS consisting of Art Schultz, Harold Schultz and Otto Walters started the ball rolling with a test Sunday the 14th. A flood was called between 10th and 16th along the River. Manning 3 was fixed station and Schultz acted as portable net control. Listening at Fire Headquarters the editor heard the following stations. Perhaps more stations were on and if so please so advise but these stations were actually heard at FH. Manning 3, Luebking 9, Snyder 24, Hull 17, Giesendorf 1, Mitten 19, Schultz 12, Walters 14, Gould 2, Shrader 21, Kelsey 22, Peters 6, Beghtel 34, Campbell 32, Goff 30. This was quite a showing and it is hoped that the efforts of the program committee to have some definite happening each test period will have the same turnout as is indicated by the above.

The program committee is charged with the responsibility of having some definite happening at test periods. Such simulated but possible happenings call for imagination in clearing the cause of trouble, distress, or breakdown in the net. The result of the first test is a good indication that the gang went for it and will get more active as time goes on. Good work fellows.

For those who have not yet been on a net, get those rigs together and join in the problems, help get them solved and thus be prepared for any emergency.

SCOUTS

At the meeting of the club November 12, the suggestion of the program committee as to having Fire, Flood, and Tornado net hook ups was accepted and as above the results were very gratifying. During the same meeting discussion was held as to the possibility of having Eagle Scouts help in our work. These scouts chosen on the basis of their interest in radio and willingness to help in our work will be assigned to operators and will assist as log clerks and represent fire chiefs, utilities etc. in the simulated situations. In turn the operators will instruct the scouts in the operation of the net and the laws so that the boy may in due time take the test and become a full operator.

Mr. Ted Cappelen, the boy scout District Executive, has been very cooperative in this respect. Mr. Cappelen has had experience with St. Louis WERS work on the Mississippi levee.

Help the scouts assigned to you. We know that they will be a big help to all of us in our work. Together "Be Prepared."

COMMENTS

At the called meeting November 12 several deterring matters were brought to the attention of those present. Means should be taken to clear up these items.

At Zone stations number 3 and 6 no heat is available in the radio rooms so operation during the cold months will not be feasible unless some way is found to get some BTU's to the operating room. Several times operators have not been given the key to the radio room at Control Center. The guard claimed he knew nothing about the key and would make no attempt to locate it so the equipment could not be operated.

In calling the list of WERS operators it was found that many had either moved or the wrong phone number was given. The chain list should be brought up to date and then at least monthly use of it should be made to keep it in shape. It is the duty of the operator to turn in to the secretary of the club any change of address or telephone or non-availability of that operator. Make sure you do this. The response that Inspector Batts had to the post cards he mailed out was certainly a downright shame; how can he be expected to go ahead with his work when the results to a questionnaire were so meager. Spend those few minutes necessary to answer information vital to the operation of WERS or state that you are no longer available. The continued success of our net demands your attention in this matter.

Following are some changes that should be made in your WERS handbook. When enough changes to warrant a change in the page of your book have been made then a new page will be issued; until that time please make the changes in the book you now have.

Hull, Lynne H. - Phone number should be GA 2317
Kelsey, Louis E. - Address change and phone number. 941
North Linwood - CH 4800. Ext. 342
Luebking, Walter C. - Phone CH 4800. Ext. 342
Buder, Spurgeon H. - Phone CH 4800. Ext. 342
Goff, Leonard O. - Phone CH 4800. Ext. 342 - Address
910 North East Street.
Pittman, Alvey F. - Address 1506 East 58th Street. Phone same.
Shrader, Merrald Buren - Address 6740 Dover Road (RR 13, Box
431 B)
Beghtel, Carl E. - Phone Day MA 2554 - Night BR 3474

By the way our president, Alvey Pittman, had quite a few experiences when he made the above address change. Two days before he was to move his new landlord advised that it would be necessary to dig a new well as the old one had gone dry. Then after he had moved in he went down in the basement to open a window and upon raising the window its steel sash touched the BX wiring and blew out a fuse. Then to top it all off Alvey's wife called him from downtown to inform him that she had lost their ration books. Nice start in that new house om.

NEW RADIO AIDE

Following the resignation of Donavan Davis as radio aide William F. Lueth was selected to carry on this work.

PROGRAMS

Programs are being planned for future meetings to be presented in conjunction with reports on WERS. D. J. Angus gave a fine talk on the 19th of November on "Mine Laying and Detection." Fred Manning will show motion pictures of club outings, taken during the past year, on November 26. December 10th Mr. Louis Kelsey of RCA will speak on "Use of the Lie Detector in Criminology".

Dates for future programs will be announced later. If you know of a speaker who will address the club contact the Secretary.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee reports the following slate.

Pres.	Robert Caskey	Chief Opr.	Fred Manning
Vice Pres.	Art Schultz	Director	Harold Schultz
Secretary	Otto C. Walters	Director	Alvey Pittman
Treasurer	Wm. F. Lueth		

5

Any group of five club members in good standing may submit their slate up to four days before the annual meeting - the first Friday in December.

SUMMARY

Activity as a whole is not quite as it should be in the operation of the net. More interest should be shown and more effort made to be at each test or have the auxiliary place the station in operation so that the stations assigned to that area can have contacts.

Again it is requested that if you have anyone in mind that can be licensed for operators that they should be brought to club and get their applications in so that they may get assigned to a unit.

Lack of two receivers in the Control Center and Zone stations still continues to be a big problem in getting the system to work as it is planned. How about some more experimental work on this problem.

NEW SCM

Herbert S. Brier, 385 Johnson St., Gary, Ind. has taken over the duties recently vacated by our past presidents, LeRoy Waggoner, Harry Miller, and Julian Gilliam. He is going to continue to publish the Bison as a means of keeping the Indiana doings alive. In order to make its publication possible he is going to charge 40¢ a year to cover the publication costs. Send remittances to the above address and receive this interesting bulletin of the happenings of the Indiana amateurs. Report your activities to him each month as well.

VISITOR

LeRoy T. Waggoner Sea 1/c r-48, U.S.M.S.T.S. Gallups Island, Boston, Mass. Yes that is the new address of his royal highness. Roy was here last month on a ten day furlough and managed to get around to quite a few places during his stay. A pitch in dinner was held at the home of Don Davis JYP for Roy and his wife Becky. (For your information the alphabetical designation in his address refers to the United States Maritime Service Training Station. Its easier to use the initials don't you think?)

WERS BULLETIN

The WERS issued a special bulletin September 8th giving frequency assignments, news of individual doings of WERS operations, as well as operating procedures. Join up with WERS, get those

same post cards back to the Radio Aide and receive issues of this bulletin. Just how many of you have neglected to take the minute to fill in and mail the card Inspector Batts has been telling us about so long. Do it now.

SICK LIST

Jack, DYN, Mueller has been in the hospital for several weeks. He is now home and would no doubt welcome visitors or a card. His address - 1328 West 34th Street.

LETTERS FROM THOSE IN THE SERVICES

Arnold Finchum R T 1/c, U. S. N. R., N. T. S. Bliss Electrical School, Tacoma Park, Washington, D. C., writes under the date of August 18. He advises us that he received the July issue of Amachewer and thanks us for the decision to again publish it. The paper was sent to Treasure Island, Chicago and finally caught up with him at Washington. Arnold has attended instructors school in Chicago and was assigned as instructor at the Bliss Electrical School. He has married a girl he met in Utah and she is in Washington with Arnold. (Congratulations cm.) He invites anyone in Washington to drop in and see him. In closing he inquires as to the number of opers that Fritz now has.

C. D. Haupt ART 2/c, C A S U #13, c/o Postoffice, San Francisco, California. His Amachewer reached him after being forwarded twice from Corpus Christi. He expressed enjoyment at our procurement of our WERS license and the use thereof. His wish of good luck to Waggoner in the Merchant Marine. Haupt expresses his thanks for our sending the paper to him and a wish that we may continue to send future copies to him. (That we will cm.)

S/sgt. Claude G. Richie, ASN 20536911, H and S Company Sig. Det., A.P.O. 812, c/o Postmaster New York, New York.

(The following introduction to Claude's letter is quoted word for word in order that you may see that a letter or a paper from the folks back home does mean something to those so far from home and friends.)

Somewhere in the West Indies Saturday Afternoon - Aug. 29.

"Fellow Members and Gentlemen:

I hardly know how to begin. Perhaps I'd better start by saying that I'm ashamed to have been a mute recipient of the "Amachewer" all these months without writing to thank the editors and tell them how much it means to me as, indeed, it must to all

servicemen on foreign shores - to know that the gang at home are keeping our beloved ham radio alive in spite of the rigors and long hours imposed by war. In brief, Gentlemen, Thank you for remembering me." (Unquote.)

Richie expresses surprise at the new names appearing in the club membership. He has been in the WI since February of 1942, uniform weather the year around quite like our June and July climate with very little rainfall. Paved roads, telephones, electric lights, restaurants, etc. The stores in town are full of the most beautiful chinese silk and satin, English soap, French perfumes etc. They live in barracks having steel cots with white sheets.

His principle job is copying press. He attends the open air theatre for amusement. He takes a postman's holiday after hours to listen in on his own Hallicrafters Sky Challenger which he bought from Bill Long for \$35.00 and for which he has had offers of \$110.00.

He says that any letters from the fellows would be appreciated.

Now what do you say fellows, let's each and everyone write these fellows. Their letters will be posted on the club bulletin board so that you may read their letters in their entirety.

ADDRESS

The Club Secretary, Paul Nelson, 1117 North Jefferson Avenue, Indianapolis 2, Indiana for club business, membership applications. The editor, Robert Caskey, 2355 Stuart Street, Indianapolis, Indiana with news and comments. The treasurer, William Lueth Jr., 6031 Pleasant Run Blvd., Indianapolis 1, Indiana for payment of your dues.